Home Mission Echoes

"The Country for which I lifted up mine hand to give it to your fathers."

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Vol. IX FEBRUARY, 1906 No. 2

MUIR GLACIER FROM THE SIDE

510 Tremont Temple
Boston

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HOME MISSION ECHOES

This paper is published monthly under the auspices jointly of the American Baptist Home Mission Society and the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, and represents in a concise manner the interests of both organizations. It aims to make a cheap, popular Home Mission periodical, attractive in its mechanical features, interesting to old and young in its varied contents, with numerous illustrations during the year. Mrs. M. C. Reynolds is the General Editor, and Mrs. Jas. McWhinnie, Assistant Editor. Rev. Howard B. Grose has charge of the Home Mission Society's Department, and Mrs. Anna Sargent Hunt charge of the Department for "Our Young People." All correspondence pertaining to the editorial department of the paper should be sent to Mrs. M. C. Reynolds, 510 Tremont Temple.

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Around the World by Rail.

How many times we have heard people exclaim, "I would go abroad if I could do so without crossing the water!" And how impossible it seemed to us on hearing such an exclamation! If, however, a proposed scheme can be realized, our friends who are afraid of water may be enabled to visit other countries than our own without crossing the ocean. This scheme is no less daring than the construction of a tunnel under Bering Strait.

The railroad constructed to run through this tunnel will connect Alaska with Siberia, and this will bring the United States into direct communication by rail with Russia. A petition has been filed with Secretary Hitchcock for his approval of the proposed plan. Many Russian, French, and American capitalists are interested in the scheme. The railroad company has already taken out its charter under the laws of Maine, and established offices in several of the largest cities of both our own country and Europe. Should this projected railroad prove a success, it will probably do much toward developing Alaska. As our young history students know, Alaska once belonged to Russia. The name is thought to be derived from the dialect of the natives discovered there by the Russian explorers. They called the peninsula "Al-ay-es-ka."

Christian Endeavor.

Home Mission Echoes

"Our Echoes roll from soul to soul,
And grow forever and forever." —*Tennyson.*

Vol. IX. FEBRUARY, 1906 No. 2

Editorial

THE Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society has *not* left Tremont Temple. Our address as formerly is 510 Tremont Temple. We regret the necessity of being separated from the Societies that have moved to the Ford Memorial Building. We miss the companionship of the noble men and women who were our next door neighbors.

Many inquiries and some criticisms have come to us because of the separation of the Missionary organizations. Our Society hoped to have rooms in the new building. We appreciate the advantages of a new building with modern improvements, and also the comfort of the pure air and delightful outlook which the location would afford us.

The women of our Board held many meetings and were much in prayer while this question was under discussion. It was finally decided that we could not afford to pay the extra rent which a change of rooms would demand. Since the Spring of 1896, when we moved into Tremont Temple, we have had but two rooms. The Treasurer, and Superintendent of Literature have occupied one room, and the other was used as a stock room. In one corner of this stock room the Corresponding Secretary has had her desk. The time has come when we must have more room in order to do the best work. We have secured two rooms adjoining 510, making three rooms connected by folding doors, on the front of the fifth floor of Tremont Temple. We shall retain the present stock room in which we shall keep our literature, and typewriter. For the same number of rooms at the Ford Memorial Building we should be obliged to pay $600 more per year. The income of our Society is smaller than many of the missionary organizations, and the members of our Board feel that we would not be justified in putting so much money into rents.

We have about seventy-five teachers and missionaries looking to us for support. Money comes into our treasury very slowly, and we often spend wakeful nights in planning how to meet the salaries. We are borrowing money now to meet our obligations. With such conditions we cannot increase our rent, and we believe our constituency will not blame us for remaining at Tremont Temple.

M. C. REYNOLDS.

THE ladies of the church in Beverly, Massachusetts, have extended a cordial invitation to the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society to hold its annual meeting in that place, Wednesday and Thursday, May 2nd and 3rd. Their invitation has been accepted, and we are already making plans for a meeting of strength and power.

CAN it be done? Can our Mission in Alaska that requires from five to six thousand dollars annually for its support be properly sustained if its receipts for nine months of the year have reached but one third of that amount? That is the problem that confronts the Board of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society at the present time. We know that a large part of the receipts for the work of our Society come to our treasury in the last two and three months of the year, but they must be unusually large this year to cover the amount required for Alaska.

Up to January first, but one hundred and ninety Sunday Schools had responded to our appeal for contributions, the letters to superintendents were sent out early in November. Those schools whose contributions come regularly to our treasury have responded, others less regular have failed to reply. Our superintendents and Sunday School teachers are busy people and with their other cares, Alaska may have been forgotten. Then the years pass so swiftly that a school oft times fails to realize that a year has passed. Therefore we ask our leaders to notify their superintendents that it is time for the annual collection for this part of our work.

We hear encouraging things from the Mission. Both Mr. and Mrs. Coe were much benefitted by their vacation and have entered with renewed vigor into the work. There are forty-six children in the Home, a larger number than ever before. Some of these are quite young and require great care. Appeals are made to Mr. Coe to take more children but he must refuse. If we cannot raise the amount required for those already under our care, we certainly cannot care for more.

At our last Board meeting a letter was read from Dr. Sheldon Jackson stating that near "Lake Iliamna on the coast almost north of Wood Island were six villages of native Aleuts that were practically unknown to the world." He writes, unexpectedly here was found the last reindeer religion in Alaska. These people are nominally under the Greek Church but they have no resident priest and no priest has been near them for two years or more. Here the Government would like to start a school and as it is in the region assigned to the Baptist Church we wish to offer the station to your Society. The government will pay salary of teacher and will also be glad to loan you a herd of one hundred reindeer on the same conditions that we have loaned to other denominational missions in the north of Alaska.

Your Board would have been glad to have accepted the offer but with the facts concerning our Wood Island Mission before us, it was impossible. BUT IS IT NOT POSSIBLE TO RAISE THE AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR OUR MISSIONS ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN ALASKA? WE TRUST THE ANSWER WILL BE AN EMPHATIC YES SUPPORTED BY PROMPT AND GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

Muir Glacier

THE grand old Muir glacier during the last four years has receded two and a half miles, instead of at the rate of one mile in seven years, the rate prior to the series of heavy earthquakes in September, 1899. In addition to this recession, one of the features in the changed condition of the glacier, is the great amount of floating pack ice and bergs in front of the great, solid, icy cliff. Instead of the water being clear right up to the face of the glacier proper, as it was prior to 1899, this pack ice makes navigation impossible within less than 10 miles of the glacier.

Alaskans Descendants of Asiatics

"Captain McLellan, who has had the revenue cutter Manning out among the western Aleutian Islands says: "An interesting little incident of our voyage tends to the support of the contention of so many that the Aleutes and Eskimos are descendants of the Asiatics. The officers of the Manning took a graphophone ashore on Attu. One of the records was a Chinese song. When it came to reeling off this piece of music the natives went wild with delight, saying they knew that music; that it made them forget their God. In the numbers previously played they had manifested very little interest. But the Chinese song they claimed as their own."

Always Fragrant

In that wonderful village of Christianized Indians, Metlahkatla, Alaska, there is a beautiful church which they built. This church is perpetually fragrant, filled in every part with a delightful odor. No incense is burning, but the church is built from the wood of the giant arbor- vitæ and will be thus fragrant as long as it stands. That is the way a Christian church should be, the fragrance of the loving service rising not only from the pastor, but also from every member down to the least little child.—Christian Endeavor World.

Gold Output of Alaska

"Officials of the United States treasury department who are directly interested in the output of precious metals believe that this year's production of gold in Alaska will not only break all records but that it will exceed the total output of the Klondike and the entire Yukon territory. This is a condition which has been freely predicted for several years by the Alaska mining interests. The gold output of the Klondike has fallen off largely since 1900 while the development of new fields in Alaska has gradually increased the production of that territory.

Director Roberts of the United States mint who has made a personal inspection of some of the principal mining properties in Alaska believes that the 1905 output of gold will exceed $10 000 000. This is a conservative statement well within the bounds of probability and the prospect is that the total output will be not less than $1 000 000 in excess of the safe estimate informally put forth by Director Roberts."

Alaska Legislation

Those senators and representatives who visited Alaska this summer including Speaker Cannon were not favorably impressed with giving that territory a delegate in congress but have outlined a substitute plan which they will bring forward at the next session. They propose treating Alaska as congress treats the District of Columbia — appoint a special committee in the senate and house to consider and handle all legislation relating to Alaska This will place Alaskan matters in the hands of men directly interested in the territory and it is believed produce better results than could be attained by a delegate.

The congressional party also returned from Alaska convinced that congress should do as much to aid railroad building in Alaska as it has done for railroads in the Philippines and a movement will be put on foot to pass a bill next session under which the government will guarantee 3 percent. on the bonds issued for the construction of Alaskan railroads. There is special pressure at present for a railroad from Valedez to Fairbanks.

Alaska Schools

"By an act of Congress approved Jan. 27th 1905, fourteen of the schools in Alaska were removed from direction of the Secretary of the Interior and according to the new law were placed in charge of the Governor of Alaska as ex-officio superintendent of education. In accordance with this act Congress appropriated $50 000 for education of natives in Alaska. This amount being considerably less than was needed no new schools were opened and some of the older ones closed." Among the latter the school at Wood Island. A petition signed by Mr. Coe and the white men of the island asking for the opening of the school was granted by the clerk of the court. In previous years school appropriations were taken from the License money and amounted to much more than the amount appropriated by government."

¶ The people of Alaska purchase from the States substantially as much as the people of Hawaii, nearly as much as do the people of Porto Rico, and 50 per cent. more than those of the Philippines.

¶ The work of marking of the boundary line over the White Pass between Alaska and the Yukon territory has been completed. The final settlement has given to Alaska a considerable portion of territory which she did not possess before the decision.

¶ Fort William H. Seward is the name selected by the war department for the new military establishment that is being built at Haines, Alaska. The name is given, of course, in honor of Lincoln's great secretary of state and Alaska's patron saint.

¶ An incredible situation—from a Christian Indian's standpoint. An Alaskan Indian recently said to a missionary "The Japanese and Russians are at war and fighting. Have they not had the Bible?"

'Yes,'' said the missionary.

¶ The fish commissioner reports that 63,000,000 young salmon were taken out of the Fort Mann, Alaska, hatchery during the past year. This is the largest number ever known to be taken from a hatchery in a year.

¶ It is estimated that the license fees that will be collected outside the incorporated towns of Alaska this year will be $120,000. Of this 70 per cent. will be available for road purposes. September receipts from the cable were $19,798, and from the whole Alaska telegraph system $33,000.

¶ For several years Superintendent Wetherbee, at Kusiloff, Cook Inlet, has offered a reward to the fisherman who brought in a shad, having been impressed with the belief that sooner or later that species of fish would make its way from the Sacramento river into the waters of the North Pacific. Last summer his expectation was realized, and a fine female shad full of roe was brought in. But a single one was caught.

The Sea Otter

FEW persons not connected with the fur trade have any idea of the enormous destruction of animal life that takes place each year among fur-bearing animals or of the extraordinary way in which the supply of these animals appears to keep up.

There are only a few species which seem to be verging on extinction; such as the sea otter, the beaver (over large tracts of country), certain sorts of fur seals and a species of West African monkey.

Perhaps the most valuable fur in the world is that of the sea otter, formerly so abundant on the shore of the Pacific ocean in Northern Asia and North America, but now in great danger of extermination unless soon effectively protected.

Between the years of 1772 and 1774 about 10,000 skins of the sea otter were taken in the Aleutian islands alone and the fur was so eagerly sought after that at the end of the eighteenth century about 120,000 skins were taken each year.

The result of such destruction could not be doubted; the animal became more timid and the number killed soon fell to about 15,000 each year and kept dwindling to such an extent that in 1867, when Alaska was sold to the United States, it was 700. In 1901 it was 406; while in 1903, Messrs. Lampkin & Co., of London, the world's greatest furriers, sold 463 skins, but they had none in January, 1904, and none again in October 1904. The catch in 1904 fell to about 75.

BIDARKI

It is a question if they can be efficiently protected, their habits being so peculiar. They are very timid and have a great range of scent, and their only defense, it would seem, is in their speed and their sounding abilities. The churn of the propeller of a passing steamer will drive them for miles and they apparently will not frequent the place from which they have been disturbed for some time, may be for years. This in a manner, may account for the growing scarcity, as they may migrate to less noisesome localities. Such being the case it is difficult to establish their habitat with any degree of certainty.

The only restriction at present imposed on the hunter is the prohibition of steam or any mechanical mode of propulsion in the hunting vessel and the employment of none other than the native inhabitant adjacent to the hunting grounds or waters; nor can the hunter transport natives of one locality to hunt in another.

Their capture is very difficult and almost beyond the possibilities of the Caucasians. In fact many white men after a sojourn of years in the Aleutian islands have never seen an otter, and few, if any, have ever seen them in numbers. It is only on the finest days and in the smoothest waters that they disport on the surface. Having to be approached by stealth, the native in his bidarki is his captor. The way usually followed by the hunter is to make an offing with his vessel and launch the bidarkies, each having two natives, one to paddle and the other to do the shooting; they paddle to windward of the vessel, as their prey must be approached from leeward on account of his sensitive scent, shot at a distance of a few yards and be immediately picked up, hence it is often that the bidarkies are miles to the windward of the vessel, The bidarki, freighted with one or possibly two otters, together with the natives makes a return to the vessel in case a swell should arise, extremely hazardous.

It is not unusual for a sea otter skin to sell for $300, while remarkably good skins may bring two, three or five times that amount.—*Alaska Prospector.*

Alaska Telegraph System

IN connection with what has been done to give telegraphic communication with the entire North, a brief sketch of the inception of the plans that have resulted in the installation of the Washington-Alaska cable is worthy of repetition. The very beginning of the enterprise dates back to the time when it was believed that the most practical way to establish telegraphic Communication with the old world lay northward along the Alaskan coast, across the Bering strait and over the Siberian and Russian frontier to St. Petersburg. In the period named several expeditions were sent North to select routes for the proposed line, F. H. Lamb, now superintendent of the Western Union, with headquarters at San Francisco, was in command of the first party, the corporation of which he is now an official being what might be called the father of the scheme. This party landed at Teller and worked its way North in the direction of Cape Nome. Remnants of the vast amount of telegraphic paraphernalia taken along may still be found at Teller, but in spite of extensive preparations made the expedition was unsuccessful

George Kennan, a young telegraph operator from Ohio, had charge of one of the other expeditions, sent out about 1870. He landed his party at Wrangel and started up the Stickeen river. This party probably accomplished more than any of the others, although the trip resulted in Kennan's being banished from Russia for his criticisms of Russian oppression. When he started the czar ruled over all the right of way from Port Simpson to St. Petersburg, something like 1,500 miles. The Russian government was willing to co-operate in the enterprise, and sent a military escort to meet the Americans on the Siberian frontier.

Kennan began his project through the magnates, and there is where he fell down, for the things he said about Russia displeased that government and the writer was sent out of the country. Before the trans-Siberian line was started the Atlantic cable was laid and the former scheme dropped. The present completed cable to Alaska is the nearest approach that has since been made to the realization of the first project.

When the great gold rush to Alaska had set in the government found it necessary to establish more army posts in the territory and a quicker method of communication than that afforded by the mail service became imperative. By act of congress passed May 26,1900, a system of military telegraph lines and cables was provided for and General A. W. Greely, chief of the United States signal service, placed in charge of construction. Since that time the work on the line has been carried on continuously until now.—*Selected.*

Orphanage News

FROM July, 1904, to June, 1905 while Mr. Coe and his family were absent in the States, Mr. S. A. Coldwell, asst. supt. had charge of the Alaska Mission during their absence. It was a hard and responsible position but Mr. Coldwell and his able assistants, Miss Curtis and Mrs. Campbell, were equal to the care. The winter passed pleasantly at the Orphanage and with but little sickness. In the spring a number of new children were received into the Home.

In one of his letters Mr. Coldwell wrote of a funeral that he attended at a Greek Church, where every one kissed the dead whose spirit they believe remains forty days upon the earth. Every day for forty days they go and kiss the grave of the departed, and many of them believe that they have seen the departed walking around after death. For nearly a year Mr. Coldwell cared for the work but he was very glad in the late summer to welcome home Mr. Coe and his family, and with them the new workers, Miss Edna Coe and Dr. Marie Topping.

The joy of the children when they heard that the steamer which brought the absent ones had been sighted could not be restrained. Some of them rushed to the woods for flowers and ferns to beautify the place; for days the older boys had been hard at work in the gardens that they might be in fine order. Mrs. Campbell had been up to her ears and over her eyes in house cleaning that every thing might be swept and

MAN AND WOMAN OF UNALASKA 100 YEARS AGO

garnished, in her own words, making life miserable for all about her. As they stepped from the little boat to the island it was a joyous greeting that Papa and Mama Coe and the children received. To use Mr. Coe's words, it was good to get home, and the best part of a vacation is getting home again.

The last of August we received our first letter from Mr. Coe after his return to Alaska. He wrote of his pleasure at the way things looked, and at the way matters had been conducted during his absence. The day after his arrival an old chief from the south end of Kadiak Island came to him and said he wished to bring some orphan children from his village to the Mission. Of this part of the island, Mr. Coe writes the following:

I have for a long time been interested in the people at the south end of Kadiak Island; there are five settlements within a day or two days' travel in which one hundred and thirteen families live.

They have nothing but fish, their health is poor, the mortality among the children is high, and there is nothing for them to do except to catch a few foxes in the winter. They have always obtained their living from the sea fur-bearing animals and know nothing of farming or of stock raising and have no one to show or to encourage them. They have a good range for cattle and goats. When asked in the matter, I advised the government to send to each place a herd of cattle, and poultry to farm out to the natives, similarly to the manner in which the reindeer are farmed out in Northern Alaska, also to send a man and woman, a farmer and field matron, for

A MAN OF KADIAK 100 YEARS AGO

these people. Let each village have a yoke of oxen to plow and let them be taught all that is possible.

SEPTEMBER 19th. Miss Curtis began school the first Monday of this month. Our school election will be on the 26th. If the law was interpreted strictly we could have no school for it provides that there shall be twenty white children of school age in the district formed. But the clerk of the court the officer in whose charge the matter is, has granted our petition for a school district deciding that children of citizens of the United States are white and thus making us come within the meaning of the law. Miss Breece of Afognak has spent a month with us and we enjoyed her visit very much. We recently dug our potatoes but they were small; we will have a few bushels instead of a large crop. We have cauliflower and good lettuce now, and a new crop coming on, as yet we have had no frost. I recently attended the funeral of old Oscar, an old resident of this Island. In getting out of his boat his gun accidentlywas discharged and he was badly wounded, he was taken to the Orphanage where he soon died. Miss Curtis and Dr. Topping covered the board box which served for a coffin with black cloth and with white muslin inside. The funeral was at the Baptist church. Two boat loads of men came over to attend the service. I tried to give some gospel truths, and trust that the seed sown may bring forth fruit. I had often talked with Oscar, and he told me that he believed in Christ, the last word he spoke was Jesus.

Ofdotia and her husband have recently made us a visit, she is the same helpful woman that she was as a girl; how I wish every girl was or could be like Ofdotia.

The past few days the strait has been full of small fish, and

as the result there have been from one to six whales in sight almost all of the time. None have been landed yet. Last night one of the natives men killed a whale and had him in his boat. It was about ten feet long. I have just come back from the beach where Mr. Coldwell and the boys are fishing. The salmon are more plentiful on Wood Island than ever before, in three draws of the seine we landed two hundred fish of different varieties, salmon, trout, humpback salmon, a few silver salmon, and largest of all three or four king salmon, one of the largest weighed twenty pounds after his head was cut off. How would you like to see the seine come in with the fish flopping and jumping and tugging at the seine so that four to six men could hardly draw it in? In the bay out from the beach seven large whales went swimming by sporting in the water. Their large dorsal fins were sticking up out of the water from two to five feet every time they came to the surface.

OCTOBER 20th. Cold weather not yet arrived. We have had new floors laid in the school room and the children's dining room and in the boys' dormitory, and upper hall. School goes on finely but there is work for two teachers.

I wonder if there is any one anxious to give the Orphanage a stereopticon or Magic lantern. I would like to have one that uses an oil lamp. If you find any one who is looking for a chance to dispose of such an article tell him we can make good use of one up here, together with as many sets of slides as we can secure. We have had several days of wind and heavy rains, days of dashing rain such as you have in the states and as I never before knew here. Our water pipes arrived on the fourth and we are today starting to fix a place for the water ram. We have had so large a school that it was too many for one teacher, an average attendance of fifty scholars. The pupils are slow of speech, slow ofttimes of comprehension dealing with what is to them a foreign language and they are so fearful of making a mistake. We have let my sister go to Miss Curtis' aid. We still have cauliflower growing in our garden and have had fresh radishes and lettuce.

NOVEMBER 27th. The most interesting feature to relate is that we have the hydraulic ram set and the water pipes laid to the mission building and they work like a charm. We now have a steady stream of fine water as large as a three quarter inch water pipe will carry flowing through the house all the time. I guessed wrong on the length of pipe needed and so we had to let the piping to the Winch Dormitory rest for the time. We had just enough pipe to do what we have done. When we set the ram up and turned on the water it refused to work, but we invented an attachment and now it works like a charm.

At our last church meeting one of our girls was received by the church as candidate for baptism. Others are anxious to come but we decided that it would be better to wait a little while. It rained last night and took out the ice from the lake that had formed the night before. That is the first ice we have had that remained for a day. The thermometer has not been much below freezing point yet this fall. We are busy thinking of Christmas or at least the women are, but I have been working outside getting the water works fixed before the cold weather sets in. The pipes were delayed so long in Seattle that we have had to rush the matter.

All are well and in good spirits. We join in wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CURTIS P. COE.

WOOD ISLAND, ALASKA, October 23, 1905.

MY DEAR MRS. GOOCH.

I have thought of writing many times since my visit to Boston, but there has been so much crowded into the months since then that I have been unable to do so. My health is steadily improving so I am able to accomplish more than for several years. We are very pleasantly packed away in the old Mission Building. Mother and Edna live in the same building which makes it very pleasant for us and especially for mother. Edna has charge of the boys dormitory and the washing and ironing and mending for the whole Mission family. She makes a fine mother for the little boys of which we have quite a number. Mother Coe keeps quite well here, and is very helpful. Her influence over the children is very valuable. I hope soon to send some pictures of all the children, there are so many new faces. We have forty-six now and could double the number this fall had we room and means to provide for them.

We want to express our gratitude for the nicely packed boxes containing only useful things. I often wish you could see us as we unpack, we workers are shut up in the school room with the boxes and we are children for the time, so eager and enthusiastic do we become as one thing after another is held up for inspection. There are so many new children this year, that our supply of underwear was entirely inadequate. In soliciting for next year it would be well to speak of small underwear, for this year we have made a number of small union suits out of red flannel. We have an abundance of small outing flannel skirts and muslin drawers. Aprons and underwear are two things we always need. We shall need to make up a number of aprons ,the blue flannel shirts of boys large and small received a warm welcome, and if more can be secured next year they will be gratefully received, and small boys 'suits and knee pants are also at a premium. We have a nice supply of unbleached sheets but would be glad to have a few wide bleached sheets and a few pillow cases forty-four inches wide. We have a good supply of medium sized night gowns, but will need large and small sizes for the girls. We would prefer combination suits for the little ones, they are so much warmer. Dresses and coats for little tots are needed. There are nine children under five years of age and a number of school age, are small, looking like babies. Blankets, towels and anything to beautify the room are always welcome.

I have tried to use the knitting machine since my return but have run out of yarn. I can with my other work do four long stockings a day. I wish you could see our large family; they are all happy and doing nicely in their school work and in their house work. I think they compare favorably with girls I saw in the states. They are children and love play, they enjoy singing and religious instruction, but of course are weak and yield readily to temptation. They have inherited so much depravity that the fight against sin and superstition must be a hard one. They are to be pitied rather than censured for their weak characters.

I wish I were able to express my appreciation of the kindness of the Board for making that visit to Boston possible, it is something very pleasant to think of now. Our vacation was a source of great recuperation for both.

We do feel grateful for all who made the vacation possible. I have written this while the children are playing around me and have mentioned things as they came to mind. We often speak of you and of your great energy in undertaking so much work for the Orphanage. We hope that you are in better health and that we shall hear from you as often as convenient. Please remember us kindly to all in your home and to any who may be interested. With much love to yourself and daughter.

Yours in His service,

ANNIE COE.

Inasmucb

"IN little faces pinched with cold and hunger,
Look, lest ye miss Him! In the wistful eyes,
And on the mouths unfed by mother kisses,
Marred, bruised, and stained, his precious image lies!
And when ye find Him in the midnight wild,
Even in the likeness of an outcast child,
O wise men, own your King!
Before this cradle bring
Your gold to raise and bless,
Your myrrh of tenderness!
For, 'as ye do it unto these,' saith He,
'Ye do it unto me!'"

Alaska May Have a Delegate to Congress

WASHINGTON. Jan. 19, 1906. The Senate Committee on Territories decided to-day to report favorably the bill granting to the Territory of Alaska the right to name a delegate to the House of Representatives.

Editorial

A RECENT visit to a number of our Home Mission schools among the colored people served greatly to deepen former impressions concerning the far-reaching work being done. It would be difficult, after looking into the faces of students gathered in the chapels of Spelman, Atlanta, Benedict, Shaw and Richmond Universities to conclude that these young men and women are not entitled to the fullest advantages of Christian education. In these noble institutions may be found the sufficient answer to every point raised by ignorance, caste or selfishness in opposition to the education, development and advancement of the Negroes. As to ability, quality, character-product—here is the living witness, impossible to gainsay. In these schools an all-around training is given. Neither brain nor hand is neglected. In all of them the Bible is taught as the basis-book of culture and life. And in all of them the educational standard is maintained in such wise as to command the high approval of the State boards of education.

TO show how strong is the feeling of commendation on the part of southern white Baptists who recognize the value of our schools, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, at its recent session in Raleigh, not only requested an address by President Meserve of Shaw University, but passed heartily without opposing vote a resolution regarding the school which closes as follows: "She has rendered a grand service to North Carolina and the world, and we commend her for her continued and persistent efforts in training her students to be God-fearing, law-abiding, quiet, industrious and self-supporting citizens."

IT is an experience to look into the faces of the six hundred students gathered in the Spelman chapel, and to hear them sing. They chant the Lord's Prayer in a manner that the visitor cannot easily forget. Under competent musical leadership, they are familiarized with the grand hymns of the church. It was most refreshing to hear these hymns instead of the cheap clap-trap that has been so widely introduced of late years, especially among the young people and in the Sunday schools. The students educated in our schools will not be likely to take up with poor church music after they have received such elevating training. Would that the students in our white academies in the north had as high a musical standard in their religious services.

THE work in Porto Rico progresses steadily. Missionary Rudd reports that there is a continuous revival spirit. In the little country church of some 45 members at Corral Viejo, 21 have recently asked for baptism. After one sermon on salvation 8 came forward to make profession of faith. In Ponce many are coming to unite with the church. Since the dedication of the new house of worship in Yauco the attendance on church services has increased 75 per cent. and Pastor Alvarado has been given a helper for rural districts. The native preachers are doing effective work, preaching strong doctrinal sermons, and proclaiming eloquently the gospel that saves.

IN Pueblo, Colorado, the Baptists have a substantial and well-equipped house of worship to-day, and are in a position to advance. This is the result of faith and generous giving on the part of church members, none of whom has much means, and of the gift and loan made by the Church Edifice Department of the Home Mission Society. But for this aid the movement would not have been possible, and our cause in this growing town would have been greatly hindered. Church building pays. Remember the Church Edifice fund.

AT the rate of a million a year they are coming. The report of the Commissioner General of Immigration for the year ending June 30 shows a total arrival of 1,026,499 aliens. The single port of New York received 788,219 of them. Boston 65,107. Two-thirds of the total were males. The largest numbers came from Austria-Hungary (275,693), Italy (221,479), Russian Empire and Finland (184,897). England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales sent 137,132. About 50,000 came from Norway and Sweden. From Austria-Hungary came nearly 100,000 more than the year preceding. The figures of the last three years make it plain that the greatest increase for some years to come will be from Russia and Austria-Hungary, the countries that have the largest number of people to lose and the worst conditions from which to escape. With such an inpouring flood, it is not surprising that extra care should be taken in enforcing the regulations as to admission, nor that statesmen should be pondering the question of possible restriction. In England, by the way, Lord Balfour has aroused great hostility by his efforts to restrict the immigration of the Russian Jews into Great Britain. In this country the problem of assimilation is unquestionably appalling. The most that has been done, as yet, is to try to evade it.

DURING the six years in which Rev. C. W. Brinstad has served as General Missionary in Nebraska, 30 Baptist churches have been organized and 36 meeting houses built, the latter representing a value of $185,600, besides 20 parsonages costing $33,250. The worst feature is that of frequent pastoral changes, 110 ministers having changed pastorates within the State and 75 left it in the six years. The total Baptist membership in the State was in 1899 14,778, in 1905 17,053. The general growth reflects great credit upon the faithfulness and ability of the missionary, who now goes from Nebraska to a similar work in California.

American Antagonisms

BY THEODORE G. SOARES, D. D.

Professor in the Divinity School of the University of Chicago

WHITE versus black, workman versus employer, Americanism versus foreignism, polygamy versus purity, Indian versus civilization—these are the antagonisms of America. Taken together they constitute our peculiar problem. No nation was ever the meeting ground of such antagonisms. so many and so varied. How can they possibly be resolved? There must be a way. We do not expect the house to fall, but we do expect that it shall cease to be divided.

Does history teach anything? In the old Roman world there were two great antagonisms, one of class and one of race: master and slave; Jew and Gentile. To the master the slave was the creature of his will doomed to inevitable inferiority. To the slave the master was the tyrant. To the Jew, the gentile was alien in race, in creed, in destiny. It was pollution to eat with him. To the Gentile, the Jew was a bigot, a hater of his kind. But a new institution came very quietly into the life of the old Roman world. Soon there were groups of men and women meeting together on the first day of the week. There was mingling of masters and slaves in those companies; yes, even of Jews and gentiles. Children were instructed very carefully in the principles of truth, purity and love. The love of God and of men was in the hearts of those people. The Christians multiplied. The children in the classes of instruction increased a hundred-fold, a thousand-fold. At last the great distinctive feature in the Empire, breaking down all barriers of nationality and caste, was the Christian Church. And when the barbarians came down from the North and inundated Rome, the Church took them and taught them. Christian education resolved the great antagonisms of the old world.

The Only Solution

Christian education is the hope of America — the common school, the church and the Bible school, the alliance of positive spiritual Christianity with earnest educational effort. Put the negroes out of account for a moment and consider the other antagonisms. The solution of the labor question lies with the laborers themselves. In the Christian spirit they can solve it. If the Christian ideas possesses them they will proceed in the right way and the wise way. No Christian working man is a very dangerous type of unionist. I am not of course suggesting the old plan of keeping the people down by preaching obedience to the existing order of things and teaching them a catechism, that they should be contented in the station of life to which it has pleased God to call them. I am suggesting that in Christian enlightenment are to be found those ideas of fairness, honor, generosity, brotherhood, which are needed on both sides of the labor antagonism. They tell us that Christianity has not made rich men fair or poor men honest. It is because there has not been enough Christianity.

The foreign problem absolutely yields to the evangelical church. There is no foreign problem where Christianity is ascendant. Drop into the Italian Baptist Church in Buffalo some festal Sunday. Those black eyed youngsters belong to the Sunday School. The chapel is decorated with American flags. Hear the children sing in English, "My country, 'tis of thee." They are not thinking of sunny Italy, but of the land of Washington and of the Protestant founders. Keep those children in that Sunday school. Teach them our holy faith. Teach them in English. Reach the older folk, of course, in the language in which they were born, but teach the children in English. Your Christian young men and women of Italian parentage will be no danger to the Republic.

A Polyglot Gospel

Our Home Missionaries are preaching the gospel in seventy-two languages to the parents and in English to the children. The children of Baptist foreigners are Americans. They come out of the clannish communities into our broad American life. It seems a small thing to bring to bear on the incoming tide of a million immigrants—a chapel and a Sunday school. But it is enough. It will do the business. But you must have more than twenty-five chapels for a million immigrants. There's the rub.

Roman Catholicism is not to be met by political anti-Catholic organizations. Preach the truth. Let them know. Give them the Bible. Little chapels in New England are beginning to Americanize even the French Canadians. There is no other way. But as yet there are not enough little chapels.

Of course spiritual Christianity and enlightenment will end Mormonism. Already outside of Utah the Christian standard of purity is making itself felt upon the Mormons. I have seen in the South the blue miasmic haze settling down at night with its death chill on the land. But the sun in the morning dispels it. If for a few years we took a fraction of the pains to flash the light of our Lord upon the Mormon peoples that their hierarchy takes to gain recruits from other states, we should soon see the passing of this evil, foolish thing from our national life.

Race Issues Settled

It has been proved that Christian education will make a good citizen of the Indian. There are great qualities in that race. A shame that we should have treated them as children, feeding them and telling them to play and be quiet. It has been demonstrated that the Indian can be taught to be clean and to work. He can learn the love of truth. He is naturally reverent and will love the Great Spirit, when he is known as Heavenly Father. Our Indian Christians have given us a most suggestive characteristic word for the Christian life. They call it "the Jesus road." There are not wanting Indians of distinguished ability, and there is no reason why those who remain of the old tribes should not come into our Christian civilization.

Now come to the Southern antagonism. Suppose every Negro were at work at the thing he could do best. Suppose every Negro were intelligent. Suppose the black people owned their little homes, cultivated their own little farms, and the shiftlessness and squalor of to-day should give place to orderliness and thrift. Suppose there should be added to his emotional religion the idea of righteousness, so that to be a Christian Negro meant to be honorable and chaste. Now suppose such a transformation should take place. There might still be some difficult questions of social and political equality, but would not the dangerous antagonism be ended? Of course, such a consummation, however devoutly to be wished, is far off. But the means to attain it are in our hands. — Christian education, the training of religious and educational leaders, and the spiritual and industrial education of the mass.

American antagonisms are to be ended through the varied activities indicated by the phrase, "Home Missions."

A Live College in Arkansas

BY ROBERT M. CAVER

THE primary object of the Arkansas Baptist College at Little Rock is to train preachers and teachers so that these in turn may enlighten the masses of the negro race, or as a distinguished missionary officer puts it, to prepare "the tenth man." But it is the belief of trustees and faculty that some of the "ungrateful nine" have seen their error, returned for light, and must be given it. It is not primarily an industrial school, for before it put on any industrial features whatever, it offered a college education to its students and specal English training to young ministers. It does the same now.

That is the chief end. But circumstances have dictated the adoption of industrial or manual training departments largely as a means to help students through school, enable the institution to offer such help in the absence of an endowment or scholarship fund, and to make the students themselves practical men and women. It has proved a success; otherwise the school would today have a very small attendance and be confined to narrow limits instead of covering as it does such a broad field of usefulness in Arkansas and the Southwest.

The large and constant influx of colored home-seekers from the older Southern states, and the absolute necessity of ample Christian training for all, especially in this part of the country render the school an imperative necessity, for Arkansas. Indeed the school draws on a few states east of the Mississippi, and has been doing so for five years. It has one African student preparing for the ministry. In spite of inadequate facilities, it is overrun with applications for attendance, from about the third school month to the end. The enrolllment Feb. 1 was 460.

The Industrial Departments

About 25 students are employed in the industrial departments and thereby pay their expenses through school. Perhaps a little over half as many more are in these departments as beginners and hence cannot make all their expenses. Much discretion is exercised as to the character and needs of students admitted to these departments.

The printing division is the oldest and best equipped of the industrial departments. It occupies three large and two small rooms in the same building in which the cabinet, carpentry, and wood-working divisions are operated. This building is known about the school as "the shops." The Baptist Vanguard, the official organ of the colored Baptists of Arkansas, is printed here weekly; also the College Record, a monthly devoted to the doings of the institution. The press room contains one large Cranston cylinder newspress and two job presses. All told the printing department is valued at $5,000. It takes eleven persons outside of the manager and foreman to operate it. All but one of these are students, regularly prosecuting their studies. A graduate of the school is in charge.

Carpentry, Cabinet and Wood-working

The start in carpentry and wood-working was given by Dr. MacVicar, who donated a nice set of tools; and his generosity was subsequently supplemented by the gift of additional tools by a large local hardware concern, so that now the shop is well enough furnished to make appreciable headway in ordinary work. But this department won its way while it yet had practically no power fixtures, such as turning lathes, rip-saws, groove planes, mortising machines and the like, or even power to run them. Its usefulness has been felt both in keeping the school property in repair and gaining a strong commercial standing in the community. Large amounts are expended through this department with the lumber and hardware concerns of Little Rock from year to year. The students during three vacations have erected as many as a dozen houses in the city, made perhaps 50 book-cases, fitted several churches with pews, and turned out many other useful articles. All the revenue received from this work (which has been done at student's and not at mechanic's prices) has been turned into the operation of the department and support of students in it. Some of the work has been done for white people and some for colored. About nine boys are employed here during their spare time.

What is true of this department as to commercial output is also true with the press and other departments. This industrial branch is also supervised by a former student of the school.

The College Farm

Although not fully developed this promises to be a most helpful adjunct. A 100 acre tract of land five miles north of the city was bought two years ago with view to making a truck garden, poultry farm, brick yard, etc., in connection with the school. For lack of money this has not yet been started. But the institution already owns about seven head of cattle, and a pasture has been fenced off. The community building up around the farm in enlightenment and culture may testify in the future to the wisdom of the venture.

Through the inspiration of this and other industrial features of the College, the colored farmers of Arkansas hold a conference at the school each year, the last one on March 3rd. Soon there will be started a night housekeeper's institute to give some free training and advice to the cooks and washer women, servants and housekeepers of the Little Rock community, that they may be made more useful and effective in their work.

Sewing, cooking, house cleaning and keeping are taught just as hard as Homer, only out of school or study hours, so that no obstacle may be placed in the way of student progress. Only those who show aptness in these industries are required to put much time on them, but all must do something.

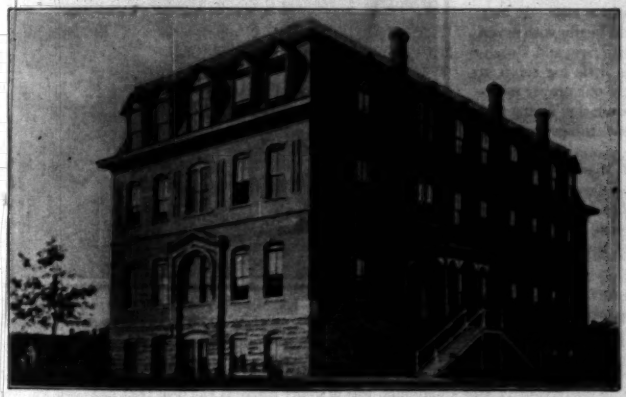
Development for Service

These departments have in no way hindered the literary. Today the minister's class numbers about 45; first year Academic 65. The number pursuing the college course is higher than ever before. The Commercial department is rapidly preparing stenographers and typewriters, book-keepers and amanuenses to fill places, especially in the multiplying business concerns and professional offices of the many staunch colored men of the business and professional classes in this section. The number of successive enrollments during the sixteen years of President Booker's administration is approximately 5,000. The number of graduates turned out is 42. The chapel, which is in the administration building, is too small comfortably to accommodate the full student body at devotions or services. Besides the finishing of the Girls' Laundry and the Domestic Building already started, the President has recently emphasized among the needs of the institution a chapel and small hospital. The trustees are anxious to erect a president's home, as at present President Booker is crowded in four small rooms of the Boys' Dormitory, with a family of seven. Many of the former undergraduate students of the College are at present engaged as

public school teachers and pastors, while many others are engaged in farming, business and other honorable pursuits.

HARMONIOUS CO-OPERATION

There is no such thing as antagonism between the manual and literary divisions of the Arkansas Baptist College. The divisions cooperate satisfactorily. No diploma is given from any industrial department. Knowing that only the youthful representatives of the race that dwelt so long in slavery are the attendants of this school, it is the opinnion of those in charge that this will be the most effective way of developing and drawing out all the powers of these representatives. It has been a problem to foster the institution under this system of operation, but the problem would have been greater had there not been such system.



ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE

Sources of Character

BY E. E. CHIVERS, D.D.

SOME very definite impressions were received during the visit to our schools for Negroes. The eagerness with which many of the colored people reach out after an education is striking and even pathetic. It would be an iron hand and an unfeeling heart that would withhold from them the key to the kingdom of knowledge. On one of the floors in Spelman Seminary we saw in the first grade a little girl of six, and in the third grade her mother. No false pride kept her back. She wanted to know and was willing to sit with the children. She is but a type of many. Fathers and mothers toil hard, and subsist on scant fare, that they may send their children to school. Young men are willing and glad to work in early morning hours, and again at night, that they may spend the days in school. They are worthy of a helping hand. Nothing, however, was more marked than the emphasis which is given in these schools to the formation of right character. They are thoroughly Christian. Place is given to industrial training, but the "bread and butter" theory of education is not allowed to obscure the fact that "man shall not live by bread alone." Mental discipline is not allowed to crowd out the moral and religious element. The great end kept steadily in view is the turning out of Christian men and women, trained for leadership of their race. Our Home Mission Society is doing no more beneficent and far-reaching work than in the maintenance of these schools. They mean much not only for the Negro, but for the whole Southland.

Extending the Kingdom

A Chapter of Home Mission History

BY REV. JAMES A. HAYCRAFT

MY work in Colorado began in 1883. Coming to Gunnison in the spring of that year, with health impaired, I remained there during the summer, supplying where opportunities offered and assisting in Sunday school work in West Gunnison. I had determined to enter fully upon the work when the Lord would open the door.

About this time I was greatly impressed to go down in Reservation (now Delta) and Montrose Counties. I took the train for Delta, arriving there on the afternoon of Dec. 1, 1883. Here I met Mrs. Emma Blair and others and was induced to stay over Sunday and preach. I did so, continuing the meetings during the week following. Two professed conversion, and at the organization of the church, which took place Dec. 10, across the Gunnison from Delta at the house of John Simpson, these two came in on experience, and I baptized them in the following February. They were the first I think in all that country.

Going up to North Fork I preached at Peonia, and held a week's meeting at Hotchkiss, where one came out for the Lord. The little band at Delta pleaded with me to stay with them and believing that God was in the work, I entered upon the care of the church, went to Gunnison and was ordained there Jan. 24, 1884.

I moved down to Delta and began the evangelization of that country. I found but one person between Delta and Montrose who would pray in public; — not one in all the North Fork or Surface Creek section. Backsliding, cold, lifeless, skeptical and infidel sentiment prevailed everywhere. I walked all over those two counties during the first eighteen months I was there. The interest seemed so great, that Dr. Palmer, then General Missionary came over and organized the Baptist church at Montrose on March 4. At Colorado (now Olathe) the brethren were anxious for an organization. I went there with Rev. M. A. Clark and organized that church on Jan. 13, 1885. We had a most gracious revival, continuing about three weeks leaving a prayer meeting and Sunday school organized. I took up the care of the church for the following year. During the year we built a chapel, and in July, 1886, dedicated it, and organized the Gunnison Valley Association, with 144 members.

About the close of 1886 a remarkable revival influence came over the churches and myself. The fact was plain and personal. Going to Hotchkiss I met a few Baptists at the schoolhouse and organized them into a church on Nov. 28; saw at

once that we had the presence of the Lord with us and continued the meeting, gaining in power all the time. Rev. Henry Grant assisted, and on Sunday, Dec. 5, baptized two converts, Mr. Parker and Mr. Lewis, in the North Fork. Mr. Parker was converted when I first went in there three years before. The revival interest grew upon me. On the Ash Mesa, the power was visible, but the people would not stop at that time for a special effort. Going over to Surface Creek, one night all but two in the house rose for prayer. Placing an appointment at a venture at the Capron schoolhouse above Delta an astonishing interest made itself apparent. People came for miles to the meeting, which continued many nights, and the very ones who at Ash Mesa refused the work at their door came for miles to get the benefit of this work.

The altitude so impaired the health of my wife that I gave up the work, and left on the last day of 1887. The four churches organized while I was there continue still. It may be interesting to note that Delta church was begun with seven members; Montrose with five; Colorow with five, and Hotchkiss with but six. I understand that the little log cabin in Delta with dirt roof, where we used to hold our prayer meetings, still remains. These were days of foundation laying and seed sowing. The Lord hath done great things for that people. I rejoice with them.

NOTE.—Dr. Proper, Superintendent of Missions, says the country described above is now one of the most fruitful valleys in Colorado. There are more churches to-day, and the cause is prospering. It is interesting to recall the beginnings and the pioneer church building work of the devoted missionary filled with evangelistic zeal.

Two Good Testimonies

Read these two Arapahoe Indian confessions of faith in your church prayer meeting, and see if they do not stir some hearts. They are from the heart:

BIRD CHIEF, SR. I ask missionaries, Kiowas and other Indians to pray for me so I can walk in Jesus way. These men and woman here recognize me as head man. My heart feels like crying to see my people come into the Jesus road. Been thinking good deal, very few Arapahoe Christians, they were in dark and don't know way. If I come those still in dark I can lead out and show they way. Just month before Christmas I went to church, that was time Jesus touched my heart, since that time I think bout all this. I feel like Jesus talked to me then and since that time I want to step in Jesus steps in trail so I can come out on Jesus road. I'm goin' to leave all my bad things and bad thoughts, try to be kind and think about Jesus from now on.

CHIEF HAIL. I ask missionaries to excuse me if I make mistakes in my remarks. Since mission built among Arapahoes I help a great deal. Time and time again missionary ask me why I don't come into Jesus road and I say "I'm thinking all the time." I knew I was going to come but I wanted to think. I love my people, men and women. I heard the Word of God at St. Louis (I was a delegate) and when I came back I told most of Araphoes all what I heard. I told them I now make up my mind to go into white man's road. I can feel my heart get big when I hear Jesus' words, (this was when the Arapahoes came forward in decision for Christ) and I couldn't help but cry I was so glad. I am not strong and half sick most of time. If I live only little while I want to show my people the good road.

Notes from the Field.

THE Home Mission Society has received $2,000 on the annuity plan from a minister and his wife, who were formerly missionaries in a foreign land but were compelled to return to America on account of failing health. Before going abroad they served on a home mission field, and so came to realize the importance of all mission work. They desire to make their offering perpetual, the income to be used in support of one or more home mission pastors, preferably at work among the immigrants, believing that "upon the Christianization of these people depends the safety of our civil and religious liberties."

REV. J. KEJR, BOHEMIAN MISSIONARY AND FAMILY

THE Christmas gathering among the Indians at Taupa, Oklahoma, was in many respects the best that has been known at that mission. Missionary Deyo says that some came nearly a week in advance and could hardly be persuaded to break up their camp, they liked it so well. There was a tree and a meeting, with over 100 present. At the Sunday services, Dec. 31, ten came forward for prayers, saying they desired to walk in the Jesus Road. Some of these expressed a desire to be baptized in the spring. The Christmas offerings amounted to $64.30.

LAST year the Baptists of New Mexico gave about $1 per member for work in the territory. In 1900 there were about 600 Baptists there, now there are nearly 2,000, gathered in 53 churches. The missionary pastors are doing a noble work on scant salaries.

AT a recent gathering of the Chinese in the Morning Star Mission, an address was made by a representative of the Chinese Government in this country, who was born in San Francisco, where his father was pastor of our Chinese Mission. The son was sent to China to be educated, and became an official. He is a devout Christian, and represents the spirit of the new China.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

CONDUCTED BY
ANNA SARGENT HUNT.

A Welcome Message

IT seems like old times (we wish it were no rarity) to receive a report for ECHOES, unsolicited, of a society doing good work. This time it is from Bath, Maine. The Farther Lights' Circle of the Baptist Church has lately been reorganized, taking in old and young if they choose to join, and there is now a fine Circle, consisting of young married people, college graduates, girls just ready to graduate from the High School, teachers and book-keepers. The same course as that taken in the Ladies' Circle is adopted—the alternation of home and foreign mission topics, with printed programs for the year.

At a recent meeting twenty-two were present and the Indians were considered. While the program was going on, patchwork was cut for Mrs. Wright, Crozier, N. M. Thank Offering envelopes were given out and plans made for a public meeting in the vestry. Before this number of ECHOES goes to press the Farther Lights will have had charge of a Sunday evening meeting at which time the Thank Offering Envelopes will have been opened.

The news of such joyous, faithful work is an inspiration to all who have a desire to accomplish something for the Master.

Beginnings in Alaska.

TO all our Young Peoples' Missionary Societies of whatever name we commend the little book of twenty pages—the History of Kadiak Orphanage, Wood Island, Alaska, recently issued from our Headquarters at 510 Tremont Temple Boston.

No better investment of a dime can be made if one would know each step of the progress of our Alaskan work since the vote of our Board in December, 1891, to build the Orphanage and gather in the children.

Well may our young folks have a lively interest in the work since they did so much towards disposing of the five thousand Plank and Shingle cards, each representing a dollar, given by Miss Martha Evans of Jamaica Plain, Mass. From the outset our Sunday Schools and young people have done a great deal towards the support of the work at Wood Island.

Familiar are the names of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe and Mr. and Mrs. Coe and many others who have labored in the Orphanage interests since 1892. Not so familiar are the names of those who first commenced missionary work in Alaska.

In a most valuable paper, "The Moravian Mission in Alaska," published to commemorate the completion of its first decade are facts we shall do well to remember.

"The first organized work in Alaska was, it is true, begun by a native Alaskan Indian, whose name was Philip, and who after being educated and converted at a Methodist Mission in British America, returned to Fort Wrangell, turned an old dance-room into a school-room and preaching place, and with the aid of a few decent whites, began the good work amid all the discouragements of the fearful depravity prevalent at that time.

In the year 1877 the Rev. Sheldon Jackson was sent by the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church to investigate the needs of the people, and took with him a noble missionary heroine, Mrs. A. R. McFarland, who, 'trained to conquer emergencies by twenty years of missionary labor, and consecrated to her work by bereavement and sorrow,' was willing to remain alone at her post, the one missionary in Alaska. 'These two arrived at Wrangell in time to take the work from the dying hands of the Indian Philip.' After a fearful year of lonely work, 'aid came, through the strenous efforts of Dr. Jackson,' who, from his first visit to the present time, has not ceased to advocate and actively support the cause of Missions and of Education in Alaska."

"Inseparably associated as the name of Carey with India," says the author of Our Northernmost Possessions, "or those of Elliot and Brainerd with the Indian in the East, is the name of Sheldon Jackson with Alaska." To his faithful Christian energy and untiring zeal, the people of Alaska owe the introduction of Protestant missionary work, and the establishment of schools for their education and elevation. The 'future Christian civilization of Alaska must and will revere his name as that of its founder.

"In 1885 a small appropriation was made to start a public school system for all, without reference to race," and it was very fitting that Dr. Sheldon Jackson should be appointed by the United States Government 'General Agent of Education in Alaska.' One school and mission after the other has been established through his instrumentality, and 'his crowning work has been the establishment of a school and mission at Pt. Barrow, the extreme northern point of land in the United States.' Next to Upernavik, Greenland, this is the northernmost mission in the world.

"Dr. Jackson, upon visiting Arctic Alaska, for the first time in the summer of 1890 for the purpose of establishing schools at Cape Prince of Wales, Point Hope and Point Barrow found 'the Eskimos inhabiting the shores of the Arctic Ocean and Bering Sea in a starving condition, the whale and walrus, their food from time immemorial, having been almost exterminated by the whalers.' Then it was that he conceived the idea of introducing into Alaska the domesticated reindeer of Siberia, both as an immediate means of relief to the famishing people, and as a permanent supply and remunerative industry for the future."

In Our Little Folks' Department we shall see a description of the place where the reindeer station was established and some facts regarding its success.

A LITTLE ESQUIMAUX BROTHER

SOME of our little folks in these cold winter days, when at their sports, would doubtless like to dress like this Esquimaux boy in his warm fur hood and cloak, made either of seal skins or deer skins, the customary material for the garments of this people. At Cape Prince of Wales, some fifteen years ago, Rev. H. R. Thornton and wife and Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Lopp, missionaries of the Congregational Church were laboring hard in school work. Mr. Thornton came to his death in a very sad way. His widow and little son are now in their home in Auburn, Maine, and we are very glad to know personally those who have been at this far away station.

Dr. Jackson, writing of this school, says that it was thought that a very small building would accommodate all the children who would come regularly. Building material being expensive, and having to be brought three thousand miles from San Francisco, a school house to accommodate fifty scholars was erected. Twelve months later the enrollment was three hundred and four, with an average daily attendance for the whole nine months of the school year of one hundred and five. The teachers were obliged to have three schools a day, the pupils who had no idea of their age being graded by stature.

Those of a certain size were allowed to come to school in the forenoon, those of a second size in the afternoon, and of a third size in the evening. Had not two teachers placed themselves at the outer end of two large parallel snow walls built out some distance from the school house door, to watch the children, there would have been great confusion, as they would not attend the sessions for which they were registered, and some would get into more than one each day. "Looking out of the window after school had begun, the teachers were often confronted by the touching sight of some mother who had brought her little one to school standing outside, with the mercury thirty and forty degrees below zero, and the wind blowing a gale, while she waited for the close of the session to see her little one safe home."

Such conditions could not be found at Wood Island, Alaska, for Mr. Coe tells us he has never seen it more than 12 degrees below zero, and last winter it was not colder than 4 degrees above. Whatever the state of the weather, there are many in Alaska hungry to get an education. Shall we all have a part in helping them?

A Rule for Little Christians

"'Tis better to get than it is to give,"
Is a rule by which the misers live;
"'Tis better to give than it is to get,"
Is a rule little Christians should never forget.

A Ringing Call

TEACHER writing from Sitka to one of our Missionary exchanges said, "The boys have named a crooked road used for coasting, 'The Way of Temptation.' While walking along we were startled to hear many voices screaming, 'Keep out of Temptation!' The way was full of coasters, and we heeded the advice."

"Keep out of Temptation!" Our Sitka Industrial Training School for Alaskan boys and girls may be said to stand for the same ringing words.

"Keep out of Temptation!" Not more clear was the cry of the Sitka boys to passers-by to avoid the crooked coasting road than is the call of the Sitka School to all who seek a home under its roof, to avoid the crooked ways of the world and to walk in the "paths of uprightness."

Following this came an appeal for interest and money offerings "to aid in carrying forward the work in this school which is not only training the ears of the Alaskan to hear the call, "Keep out of Temptation," but is striving to fill his heart and hands so full of things "lovely and of good report" that he, too, will heed the advice."

As we read the incident and the appeal, we thought of our Orphanage and the blessed work it has done during the past fourteen years.

Has not the same call ringing out from the Wood Island shores reached the ears of the more than one hundred "Alaskan children wandering, homeless, friendless, forlorn," who have been enrolled in the Orphanage family? Remembering how many young lives have grown beautiful under the Christian teaching of the Home, and knowing how many more need just the same instruction, we hope most earnestly that before our Society year closes many Sunday Schools which have not yet contributed to the Alaskan work may do so.

Dear little boy or girl reader. Has *your* Sunday School sent anything this year to help along this good work? If it has, you would remember putting in your pennies or nickels or dimes. If it has not, will you not ask your Superintendent about the collection? We are very sure he would attend to it at once if you call his attention to the matter.

The Two Gray Hills' Jewels

WHY, who *can* they be—and where *do* they live?" Such a chorus of voices as we hear asking these questions! And we answer—away out in Crozier, New Mexico. Two of them are the seven and five year old daughters of our dear teacher, Mrs. Wright,—Helena Marguerite, and Clara Grosbeck Wright and the third is Julius Denay, the little son of Mrs. Wrights' Navajo helper, a bright boy of two years. Helena and Clara become life members and Julius an annual member.

We believe that a great many little Precious Jewel hands are outstretched to bid these new comers welcome, and we hope they will feel very much at home as we adopt them into our great New England Band as valuable non-resident members.

Do the little folks remember how Mrs. Wright told us last October about the Navajo children on the great reservation in New Mexico and Arizona, how few of them have ever been to school, and many have never even seen a white person? There must be a great many children among the Navajoes who number 20,000 and who have set aside for their home the largest tract of land given to any tribe of Indians in the United States.

Now that we have a little Navajo Precious Jewel we are glad that Mrs. Wright told us some of the traits and habits of his Indian mates. The boys and girls who come to the Mission have a happier childhood than the most of the little Indians who begin to work when very young, the girls herding sheep and weaving, the boys also herding sheep and rounding up the ponies. The mothers and daughters make most beautiful blankets. The Mission Indians pupils are very quiet and timid and obedient to their teachers and parents.

Helena and Clara and Julius! May your number be many times multiplied, and your happiness and usefulness increase with every year's membership in our Band of Precious Jewels!

Morning Prayer

O BLESSED Father, good and kind,
Guide thou my steps to-day,
And let me keep thee in my mind,
In all I do or say.—*Ex.*

A New Home for the Reindeer

IN the Christmas season just past our little folks have thought much of Santa Claus and his reindeer teams. They have not perhaps really seen them, but they fancy that they come our way the last of every December.

That there are veritable reindeers in large numbers in Alaska we know positively and this month we give large space in telling about them for the facts are well worth knowing.

A well known writer in Alaskan missions says:

"Steaming up through Bering Sea in search of a suitable location for the establishment of a reindeer station, such an one was found at the extreme northeast corner of Port Clarence Bay, so named by Capt. Beechy of the British Navy in August, 1827, in honor of the Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV of England. The station was named 'Teller Reindeer Station' in honor of the Hon. Henry M. Teller, who had been active in advocating the enterprise.

In his report for the year 1892-1893, the superintendent wrote:

"After a residence here of one year, although within one degree of the Arctic circle, I am fully convinced that a better selection could not have been made. Besides being within a few hours' sail of the point on the Siberian coast from which reindeer are shipped, the natural lay of the country makes it easy to access from all directions. The location of the Reindeer Station is a beautiful one, and when viewed in mid-summer is very picturesque. Mountains rise abruptly from Cape Prince of Wales, the most westerly point of this Continent, and about 60 miles west of this station. In winter the northern lights are often seen and are sometimes startlingly grand. The North Star stands in such a position that, were a pendulum suspended from it the lower end would swing almost directly over the station."

The necessary buildings having been erected, during the summer five trips were made by the Bear to the coast of Siberia, 175 reindeer were purchased at a cost of about $625, and were landed at the station. In accordance with Dr. Jackson's instructions, the surrounding country was explored for a considerable distance. In its whole aspect, soil and verdure, there was nothing to suggest that it was within one degree of the Arctic Circle. A thick growth of grasses and flowers was found, among which moss grew in abundance. The sides of the hills are sometimes covered with short willow and alder bushes, grass and undergrowth.

"Flowers were everywhere abundant," says Mr. Bruce, "and of many varieties. Birds sang and flitted among the bushes, coveys of ptarmigan sprang out at our approach, and the sun, which at times shone through lowering clouds, helped to make the day such an one as is often experienced in summer among New England hills. Among the grasses were found bunches of redtop and patches of timothy, while on the lower lands soft and nutritious grass, resembling bluejoint, was in places abundant. . . . In one locality the moss was so abundant that four of my natives scraped up with their hands in a few moments enough to make a pile 6 or 8 feet high and as many feet through. The result of my explorations showed an inexhaustible supply of reindeer food every where."

The Siberian herders declared that there was far greater abundance of feed than in the reindeer ranges of Siberia.

"Almost without limit the whole section known as Arctic Alaska is a vast natural reindeer range and capable of supplying food for thousands of these valuable animals that are calculated to supply the great needs of the natives, and it is to be hoped in the not far future contribute to their comfort and civilization."

The Future of the Alaska Reindeer

IT the suggestion of Dr. Sheldon Jackson, the United States Government began the importation of reindeer from Siberia to supply food for the natives of Alaska who were facing starvation owing to the disappearance of the whales, seals and caribou. The experiment has proven to be quite successful, and the animals are used for transportation service as well as raised for food, being much better and speedier than dogs. For several years they have carried the mail on regular routes quite satisfactorily. R. I. Geare, in "The Scientific American," thus forecasts the future of this reindeer industry:

"At the present rate of increase, even if no more are imported, there will be at least 1,000,000 reindeer in Alaska in less than twenty-five years. To go a step further, it will not be at all surprising, in the opinion of some, if this industry should grow to be one of considerable commercial importance to the United States, and it has even been estimated that in some thirty-five years Alaska may be in a position to sell annually half a million to a million reindeer carcasses, besides furnishing several thousand tons of hams and tongues. Nor may it be a figment of the brain to predict that at no very distant day as suggested by Mr. Grosvenor, long trains from Arctic and sub-Arctic Alaska will roll into Seattle and some of our other westernmost cities, laden with cargoes of this very palatable food.

"The profits that can be realized from reindeer are, if correctly quoted, very large. For instance, a fawn, during the first four years of its life costs the owner less than a dollar a year, while at the end of that period it is worth $50 to $100 for its meat, and nearly double that amount if trained for the sled or as a pack animal."